

# **Tons of Trash Scooped Up in Saturday's Great Sierra River Cleanup**

**By Angel Moreno - The Fresno Bee**

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About 2,800 volunteers collected approximately 90,000 pounds of trash and junk at more than 100 sites Saturday in the fourth annual Great Sierra Rivers Cleanup.

Forty-seven community organizations throughout the Sierra Nevada partnered with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the cleanup event that began in 2009, in conjunction with the annual California Coastal Cleanup. Combined, the two cleanups make up the largest annual one-day volunteer event in the state.

"About two-thirds of Californians get their water from the Sierra, so it is noteworthy that so many volunteers take part in cleaning up our rivers, lakes and streams," said the conservancy's executive officer, Jim Branham. "In just four years, the Great Sierra River Cleanup has removed 571 tons of trash and debris from our watersheds."

Volunteers scoured beaches and riverbanks to collect paper trash, aluminum cans, plastic bags, cigarette butts, cardboard, glass bottles and other items. The conservancy said volunteers removed a four-piece wooden toilet with a duct-taped seat, a concrete statue of a rabbit and an old-fashioned lamp post, among other debris.

A list of all organizations involved can be found at [www.SierraNevada.ca.gov](http://www.SierraNevada.ca.gov).